

Avalanche cleanup



Audrie Gerun, a senior at Pleasant Grove High School, clears debris Monday left by the Jan. 31 avalanche at Bridal Veil Falls in

Provo Canyon. Gerun joined about 45 other students in an Earth Day fund-raiser benefiting the Nature Conservancy. Novell

pledged \$5 for each student who participated in the cleanup, promising a minimum donation of \$500.

Daily Herald Photo/John Blodgett

the garbage, swish out the toilet bowls. Doing the laundry keeps you humble."

When Bombeck wrote about washing the dog, picking her kids up from school or changing diapers, it wasn't shtick. She'd been there.

"It was just as advertised — wonderfully human chaos, dogs and laundry," said Ellen Goodman, who as a young reporter was sent to interview Bombeck 25 years ago at her home in the suburbs of Dayton, Ohio.

"It was a real break, a real change of the era," Goodman said, "because, before that, the truth of domestic life in all of its pleasures and horrors and humor and frustration had been kind of a dirty little secret."

Bombeck, who in her books and columns poked fun at real life and gave a voice to suburban housewives everywhere, died Monday at the age of 69 from complications from a kidney transplant.

Yet her wit lives in a string of best-selling books, with titles that revealed her unique way of looking at the world: "The Grass Is Always Greener Over the Septic Tank," "If Life Is a Bowl of Cherries,

week column for the editor's neighborhood newspapers in 1965.

Within a year, she was writing two columns a week for the Journal Herald, and a few weeks later, she was syndicated. Her columns appeared twice a week in about 600 newspapers.

Bombeck also was a correspondent on ABC's "Good Morning America" for 11 years and wrote a short-lived 1980 television comedy, "Maggie."

"She wrote about what she knew and that was being a housewife. The good, the bad, the ugly and the smelly. The reality of it," said Ponce Cruse Evans, author of "Hints From Heloise."

While gentle, self-deprecating humor was Bombeck's trademark, she also applied her light touch to weightier issues.

Her book "I Want to Grow Hair, I Want to Grow Up, I Want to go to Boise" dealt with children surviving cancer. She donated a \$1.5 million advance fee for the 1989 to cancer research — three years before Bombeck was diagnosed with breast cancer.



Columnist Erma Bombeck, surprise in this 1985 file photo, died she had undergone a kidney tra

As trial wraps up, lawyers take shots

By LARRY McSHANE
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Bernhard Goetz got hit from both sides at the end of the \$50 million civil suit against him: His own lawyer said he deserved to be punched in the mouth while the opposing attorney called the subway gunman "a small man with large hatreds."

Lawyers for both sides made their final arguments to the jury of four blacks and two Hispanics Monday. Deliberations were

expected to begin today.

Goetz, 48, shot Darrell Cabey and three other young black men on Dec. 22, 1984, after they demanded \$5 from him, saying later that he had feared them. Paralyzed and brain-damaged from the shooting, the 30-year-old Cabey is suing Goetz.

In a two-hour summation, defense lawyer Darnay Hoffman reminded the jury that Cabey said in a 1985 newspaper interview that Goetz "looked like easy bait."

Gesturing toward his client,

Hoffman then launched a string of insults.

"He's a nerd, a geek, a peckerwood, a cracker," Hoffman said of Goetz. He was "not some cool, calculating racist," the attorney said, but a subway rider afraid for his life.

Hoffman admitted that Goetz's own words "damned him tremendously," including his remark that Cabey's mother should have had an abortion and his reference at a community meeting in 1980 to "spics and niggers."

"Quite frankly, someone should punch him in the mouth for saying it," Hoffman said.

Cabey's lawyer, Ronald Kul, delivered his own verbal assault during his closing argument, calling Goetz "a small man with large hatreds" who pulled the trigger when he saw the black youth. Goetz is white.

Kuby told the jury to deliver a verdict that serves as a message of deterrence: "Bankrupt every other racist with a pistol who taunts an

Syrian leader slows peace efforts

By BARRY SCHWEID
AP Diplomatic Writer

DAMASCUS, Syria — Presi-

zone in southern Lebanon. He expressed willingness "to contribute to this in the framework of an

ple of Israel and always will," Christopher said.

After a second session with Peres,

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